Alberta Treasury
Economic Bulletin

ECONOMIC STATISTICS RELEASED DURING THE WEEK OF APRIL 10 TO APRIL 14, 2000

	Reference Period	Month/Previous Month	Month'00/ Month'99	Comments
Help Wanted Index (1996=100)	March			
Alberta	157	0.6%	22.7%	The help-wanted index is a measure of firms' intentions to hire new workers. In March, Alberta and Newfoundland had the second highest monthly growth rates in the country at 0.6% from the previous month, behind B.C. and Saskatchewan. There was no growth in Ontario. Alberta had the strongest year over year growth at 22.7%.
Canada	171	0.6%	11.8%	
New Housing Price Index	February			
Edmonton	111.4	0.1%	2.3%	On a year-over year basis, new housing prices in Calgary rose by 3.1%, the sixth largest increase among major Canadian cities, behind Ottawa (5.0%) Kitchener (3.7%) Halifax (3.3%) Sudbury (3.2%) and Winnipeg (3.2%). The largest declines were experienced in Vancouver (-0.9%) and Victoria (-5.3%).
Calgary	131.3	0.1%	3.1%	
Building Permits ($ millions)	February			
Alberta	459.7	-14.7%	26.2%	Building permits, an indicator of investment intentions, fell by 14.7% in Alberta in February but are up strongly compared to February 1999. Alberta had the fifth largest decline among the provinces with B.C leading the decline with a 40.9 % drop in building permits from the previous month.
Canada	2,932.9	-14.5%	13.6%	